also use of weedicides to control the weed menace to crops;

(g) More emhasis on the proper adoption of non-monetary inputs like timely sowing, maintaining optimum plant population, efficient use of fertiliser and need based plant protection measures; and

(h) Extension education efforts will be strengthened to make farmers more receptive to new technology.

For achieving these targets of foodgrains production, the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing a number of Centrally sponsored and Centrai Sector Schemes in different states of the country, including Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

Low productivity of crops in Eastern Region

10. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the low productivity of food crops in the Eastern States, including the Chhattisgarh region of Madhya Pradesh has not allowed the full benefits of green revolution to flow to the farmers of these States;

(b) what special steps are envisaged for this region;

(c) whether Government will consider a special package to be implemented at the earliest; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Crop development programmes have been launched to extend the benefit of green revolution in Eastern States but agro-climatic conditions of Eastern States including the Chhattisgarh region of Madhya Pradesh is such that inspite of efforts made, the productivity of food crops is low and has not allowed the full benefits of green revolution to flow to the farmers as it has happened in Northern States.

(b) to (d) With a view to supplement the efforts of State Governments, Government of India has launched programmes from time to time for increasing production and productivity of food crops in Eastern States including the Chhattisgarh region of Madhya Pradesh. A new Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "On-Farm Water Management for increasing Crop Production in Eastern India" is being contemplated for operation during the remaining period of 9th Five Year Plan. The scheme has not yet been approved.

Implementation of Crop Insurance Scheme

†11. SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the date by which crop insurance scheme is targeted to be made available to all farmers of the country;

(b) the State-wise details of farmers benefited by this scheme of Government so far; and

(c) the details of meeting held between various State Governments and the farmers to implement the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO):
(a) National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) has already been implemented with effect from Rabi 1999-2000 season.

(b) A Statement comprising State-wise details regarding coverage of farmers under NAIS is enclosed. *{See* below).

(c) About 142 State/District level Workshop/Awareness programmes were conducted in the implementing States/UTs for the benefit of farmers, State Governments and Bank employees.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.